

# Supervisor Lesko and Councilwoman Bonner Support Plan for Tesla Science Center and Museum at Wardenclyffe in Shoreham

posted on 9/12/2012 11:01:35 AM

*September 12, 2012*

**Farmingville, NY** - Supervisor Mark Lesko and Councilwoman Jane Bonner have committed their full support behind plans for the not-for profit Tesla Science Center at Wardenclyffe to purchase the former site of Nikola Tesla's historic Wardenclyffe lab in Shoreham and build a museum and science center on the property. The site is located within the area covered in the Route 25A Mount Sinai to Wading River Land Use Plan, a 10.5 mile stretch of Route 25A through the hamlets of Mount Sinai, Miller Place, Sound Beach, Rocky Point, Shoreham and Wading River to the Riverhead town line. The proposed facility will be dedicated to the life and work of Nikola Tesla, who was a pioneer in the development and commercial use of alternating current electricity, radio, neon lighting and x-rays among other inventions. The efforts of the Tesla Science Center at Wardenclyffe has become an international story after a Tesla enthusiast launched a successful fundraising effort, which has resulted in \$1.2 million in donations to date.

Supervisor Mark Lesko said, "It's important that we preserve this historically significant landmark and celebrate the life and groundbreaking work of Nikola Tesla. His contributions to further the advancement of technology had such a great impact on the last century and will continue to influence how we live for generations to come."

"I've been a strong advocate of the effort to preserve the historic integrity of Wardenclyffe and I support the plan to honor Nikola Tesla's achievements with a museum and learning center," said Councilwoman Jane Bonner, "I am happy that the money has been secured for the purchase, and I will do everything that I can to help bring this project to fruition as it fits perfectly in our Route 25A Land Use Plan."

"It's gratifying to see our goal of preserving Nikola Tesla's only remaining laboratory anywhere in the world coming closer to reality. The outpouring of support from almost 30,000 people from over 100 countries around the globe attests to the importance of Tesla's work to society today, and the significance of saving this site," said Jane Alcorn, president of Tesla Science Center at Wardenclyffe.

The property, which includes the original main building designed by famed architect Stanford White and constructed in the early 1900s, is presently zoned A-Residence-2 (1 dwelling unit/2-acres). The Route 25A Mount Sinai to Wading River Land Use Plan allows for a transitional use consistent with the Town's J-Business District. This designation is designed to permit non-retail commercial uses while concentrating retail commercial to more appropriate areas and reducing sprawl. The proposed museum and science center is consistent with the plan which was spearheaded by Councilwoman Bonner. Its development included extensive community participation in seven Community Planning Forums held from January through April of 2010. More than 300 residents, civic leaders and stakeholders participated in the visioning sessions.

Recently, the non-profit Tesla Science Center at Wardenclyffe (formerly Friends of Science East, Inc.) secured a reimbursement grant of up to \$850,000 from the State of New York to help cover the cost of purchasing and restoring the property. In addition, the Town has secured a \$400,000 Parks matching grant from New York State for the property and will be strategizing with the organization on how to best to use it.

For more information about the not-for profit Tesla Science Center at Wardenclyffe, visit [www.teslasciencecenter.org](http://www.teslasciencecenter.org) .

To discover more historic sites in Brookhaven Town, visit [www.brookhaven.org](http://www.brookhaven.org) or our tourism website at [www.visitbrookhaven.com](http://www.visitbrookhaven.com).

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